



CALPEEK

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S.F. MAYOR'S RACE: ACHTENBERG AND ALIOTO.

Editor's note: Assembly Speaker Willie Brown is supposed to announce his mayoral plans on June 3rd. And up until this point, most of the attention in this race has been on Brown and the man he hopes to unseat, incumbent Mayor Frank Jordan. So this week CALPEEK will focus upon the *two women candidates* for mayor: S.F. Co. Sup. Angela Alioto and former HUD Asst. Secretary Roberta Achtenberg. Here is a brief update & analysis...

...Achtenberg first. In a recent S.F. Chron story by John King, Achtenberg says her campaign message is simple and basic: the entire structure of muni government needs to be fixed. In other words, a real house cleaning at city hall. To deliver her message, she has hired Michael Terris & Eric Jaye, the duo who ran her successful 1990 campaign for the Bd. of Supervisors. A first piece of mail has already hit some 47,000 homes and the campaign has started a registration drive and a phone bank operation. The weak spot is fundraising, but Achtenberg has scheduled major events in both Boston and DC, tapping into her national base of gay & lesbian supporters. In case we forgot to mention it, Achtenberg is a lesbian. And although she's picked up lots of gay & lesbian political endorsements (the Victory Fund, the EMILY's List for gays & lesbians; and the Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance), not all gays are supporting her. Bottomline: as of now Achtenberg is being cast in the spoiler's role by some insiders (because she splits the liberal base), but if her campaign message gets through, this could change. We'll see...

...As for Alioto, this is her second run for mayor. She ran and finished back in the pack in 1991 (Terris & Jaye were her consultants in '91). This time around, Alioto has hired Austin-Sheinkopf (that's Jerry Austin & Hank Sheinkopf) as her chief consultants, with Bob Johnson in charge of the daily campaign. Teresa Ferrer has been

hired as finance director and Richard Fawal is in charge of field operations. From the sound of things, this campaign will be very *grassroots-oriented*. Alioto is in the process of putting together a team that will include 200 precinct captains and 1,000 volunteers. Key to fundraising and the grassroots campaign will be a series of house parties. Alioto is counting on her traditional base of small business owners, blue collar/union workers and the ethnic communities to get her past the Nov. 7th primary and into a Dec. 12th runoff. FYI: Alioto expects to cut into Achtenberg's gay & lesbian base. Sources note that while the Non-Partisan Alliance has endorsed Achtenberg, they've also given Alioto some money...

...FYI: Brown has had his share of negative press as of late, including a story about him getting on a muni bus without the correct change. He got bounced off the bus. But perhaps even more negative was the story about Willie saying he might have trouble living off the mayor's salary of \$139,000. Stay tuned...

GOV. WILSON'S PRESIDENTIAL TROUBLES DEEPEN.

Editor's note: In last week's CALPEEK we listed six (6) problem areas that face Gov. Pete Wilson's as yet unannounced presidential campaign. Unfortunately for CA's chief executive, the news this past week wasn't much better. Here's another update...

...***Problem #7*** - More Bad News from Mervin Field. Although we listed Wilson's declining *job performance* numbers in last week's newsletter, the head-to-head GOP presidential data from the Field Poll had not been released at deadline time. Again, it's not good news for Wilson. It shows U.S. Sen. Bob Dole(R-Kansas) way ahead in Calif. with 37% and Wilson in 2nd place at 17%. And in a 1-on-1 with Pres. Bill Clinton(D), Wilson gets 39% to Clinton's 49%, with 12% undecided...

...But that's only part of the problem. In another sec-

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tion of the Field Poll, 59% of Calif. voters disapprove of Wilson running for President, while 33% approve and 8% offer no opinion. As for Wilson's proposal to change the CA Constitution to toss out the *succession law* and replace it with a special election, 55% want to keep the current law in place, 41% want to change the law and 4% offer no opinion. Demo LG Gray Davis calls this proposal *The Broken Promise Initiative*...

...*Problem #4 Revisited* - Maidgate. The Governor's own campaign manager may have let the cat out of the bag in a recent (5/25) Sacto BEE story by Ken Chavez. The headline says, *Governor's aides silent on probe of domestic help*. In the middle of the story, campaign mgr. George Gorton said, "I don't think it matters whether (Wilson) has hired an illegal immigrant in his past...or failed to pay taxes on more of them." What's this stuff about *more of them*? Does that mean there may have been more than just Josefina Klag???

...FYI: the Thompson Contender finally made its way onto the front page of the May 30th Sacto BEE. Wilson's 1992 veto of a bill to legalize this gun is coming back to haunt him big time. Will this story be reprinted and passed out to GOP voters in New Hampshire, where the Contender is made? Bet your first born. Stay tuned...

CALIF. PRESIDENTIAL SURVEY: THE FIELD POLL.

Here are the latest numbers from The Field Poll, taken May 16-22 among 744 registered voters (342 Demos, 312 GOP and 90 others):

GOP Presidential Preference

Bob Dole	37%
Pete Wilson	17%
Phil Gramm	9%
Newt Gingrich	5%
Pat Robertson	4%
Pat Buchanan	3%
Lamar Alexander	2%
Arlen Specter	2%
Bob Dornan	1%
Richard Lugar	1%
Alan Keyes	1%
Undecided	18%

...CA's GOP *Winner Take All* primary is set for Mar. 26, 1996. 163 GOP delegates are up for grabs...

CDP'S HENDERSON RESIGNS, BUT PARTY CHAIR BILL PRESS IS STILL IN POLITICAL HOT WATER.

Editor's note: At 5 p.m., May 23rd, Susan Henderson resigned her \$78,000 + perqs job as the CA Demo Party's executive director. It hasn't been an easy two weeks for the CDP's embattled chair, Bill Press, who is under fire from several quarters. Here is CALPEEK's update, analysis & commentary...

...Much of what has happened to the CA Demo Party in the past 2-3 weeks will undoubtedly be rehashed at the upcoming CDP Executive Board meeting, June 9-11 at the S.F. Airport Hilton Hotel in Burlingame. This is an extraordinarily fast moving story which started with an anonymous memo mailed on 4/15 to numerous Demo Party officials --- alleging what the memo said were "financial abuses" and questions of "credibility claims" on the part of Henderson; and ending with Henderson's resignation and a \$25,000 settlement to Henderson from the CA Demo Party...

...When the story first broke in the press, some sources said the anonymous memo was just *sour grapes* from some current or ex-CDP staffer. Now other sources are saying the anonymous memo writer was a *whistle-blower* who uncovered some facts that weren't known or were overlooked by the CDP. The most troubling problem was Henderson's use of the CDP's Mastercard to buy personal items. Although sources say she has reimbursed the CDP, CALPEEK has gotten conflicting accounts of what the stated policy was for using the credit card. Press and the CDP ran an audit and found no wrong-doing, but have refused to make the audit public, contradicting what Press told CALPEEK several weeks ago. Unless the audit is made public, there may be lingering doubts and charges of a *cover-up*...

...But the S.F. Examiner went past the credit card thing and began checking Henderson's resume. According to the S.F. Ex's 5/25 story, Henderson does not have a bachelor's degree from Ohio State University, nor does she have (as she has on her resume) an M.B.A./J.D. from UC. But more troubling, the SFEx story notes that until March of 1992, Henderson was a registered GOPer in Alameda Co., where she lives. Someone at the SFEx did some good opposition research...

...So what's happening now? There is criticism of the way Press has handled this whole soap opera, and

especially the settlement of \$25,000 to Henderson, given the CDP's \$1 million debt. Some sources say the settlement was made to prevent a "wrongful termination" lawsuit, but other sources are more critical and have used the term *hush money*. Press refuses to say much, except for a 3 paragraph statement in which he characterized the anonymous memo as "making a variety of malicious charges." His silence is troubling to some. As one source said, "*This whole controversy just doesn't pass the smell test.*" Others disagree and say the CDP needs to get this thing over with and fast so that it can begin preparing for the next election cycle. Bottomline: this mess happened on Press's watch and sources think some "E" Board members may rally to the party's 2nd Vice Chair, Angela Alioto, who has been critical of the way this mess has been handled...

...FYI: What's Press up to these day? He's been cut to Sundays (he used to do Saturdays too) on his rather entertaining KFI talk radio show and his commentary job on KCOP-TV is on an "as needed basis." Given Chn. 13's news operation, that's almost never. Sources report he's working as a consultant for the big DC lobbying firm of Cassidy & Associates. Stay tuned...

L.A. MUNI ELECTION: LOW TURNOUT PREDICTED. CALPEEK sources are having a tough time figuring out what the impact of a very low voter turnout will have on the June 6th L.A. City runoff election. In the council races, incumbent Nate Holden is regarded as a *very slight favorite* over challenger Stan Sanders in the 10th District; and it's a *toss up* for the open 5th District seat between Michael Feuer and Barbara Yaroslavsky. But Feuer is a fresh political name & face and so some sources rate him to be slightly better positioned to win. On the other hand, Yaroslavsky has been charging hard these past few weeks. As for Prop. #1, a \$171 million police facilities bond, most sources aren't sure what impact the ongoing & bitter feud between Police Chief Willie Williams and Mayor Richard Riordan and his Police Commissioners will have --- but it doesn't help. In terms of absentee voters, the L.A. City Clerk's office reported 86,860 requests for absentee ballots as of 5/29, with 27,548 AV ballots returned. Counting the community college district, there are about 1.8 million voters. The primary turnout was about 15% and in this runoff some sources are predicting a turnout no higher than 11% --- and that may be high. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '96: ADDING MORE NAMES TO THE MIX. Editor's note: Here's another update on who's IN and who's OUT for House & Legislative races in 1996...

☒ **24th C.D.** - Rich Sybert of Calabasas wants another shot at U.S. Rep. Tony Beilenson(D) in '96. In the '94 election, Beilenson beat Sybert by about 4,500 votes. But as Sybert notes in a May 11th fundraising letter, the Woodland Hills Demo voted NO on almost the entire "Contract."...

☒ **23rd A.D.** - Like father, like son. Dave Cortese, Dom's son, will run for his father's San Jose based seat. Dave is a member of the Eastside Unified School Board. He's hired Demo consultant Phil Giarrizzo...

☒ **13th S.D.** - Speaking of Dom Cortese(D-San Jose), he has still not made his intentions known as to whether he'll run for State Sen. Al Alquist's post in '96. Already in the 13th S.D. are Assemblyman John Vasconcellos(D-San Jose) and well-connected Demo Party activist/businessman Tom Hayes...

☒ **22nd A.D.** - In the battle to replace Vasconcellos, the 3 leading Demos have already hired consultants and are campaigning away. Elaine Alquist(Al's wife) has hired consultant Paul Kinney; former Sunnyvale Mayor Pat Castillo has hired consultant Richard Robinson; and San Jose Councilwoman Trixie Johnson has hired consultant Richie Ross...

☒ **70th A.D.** - CALPEEK sources in Orange Co. don't think freshman Marilyn Brewer(R) will have a primary challenge in March, but Brewer supporters are keeping a careful watch nonetheless. The only name to surface as a possible GOP rival is Tom Reinecke, who finished behind Brewer in the '94 primary. Among the guests at a recent Brewer fundraising breakfast in Sacto were O.C. GOP Chair Tom Fuentes, GOP Assembly Leader Jim Brulte and O.C. Assemblyman Mickey Conroy...

CA CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM CONFERENCE SET. UC Berkeley & Stanford University will host a 3-day conference on the CA Constitution, June 8-10, Lipman Room, 8th Floor Barrows Hall, UC Berkeley Campus. The purpose of the conference is to provide a public forum for discussion and to initiate proposals for the revision of the CA Constitution. For info and RSVPs, ☎ (510)642-1474...

CALPEEK's INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few political items worth noting...

♦ **Prop. 187 Goes National** - Ron Prince, who was one of the 3 Calif. co-chairs of Prop. 187, has been elected chair of a new group called the *National Save Our State Coalition*. Purpose of the new group: spread the doctrine of 187 to other States. GOP consultant Bob Kiley of Orange Co. is the coalition's national coordinator...

♦ **59th A.D. Update** - Although at one point Demos were thinking of trying to ambush Republican nominee Bob Margett of Arcadia in the upcoming June 6th special to replace GOPER Dick Mountjoy (now in the State senate), sources say the blow out in the neighboring 60th A.D. recall has scuttled the original plans. Margett wins easily...

♦ **The Zeltner Masher Revisited** - Some GOP Assemblymembers are reminding one another that they don't want to get caught in what has been called the "Zeltner Masher" for refusing to back AB 53, a bill by Assemblyman Willard Murray (D) to allow PIs and bodyguards to carry concealed weapons. The NRA has made AB 53 a rated vote, meaning that it's a vote that will count heavily come '96. As for Paul Zeltner, he was a former GOP Assemblyman who voted the wrong way on a major gun bill and was targeted by the NRA and defeated in 1988. Who defeated Zeltner? Mr. Murray...

♦ **CALPEEK's Legal File** - Sources say L.A. Sup. Court Judge David Yaffe has dismissed a CA Demo Party lawsuit aimed at Assemblyman Steve Kuykendall, the freshman GOP lawmaker from Rancho Palos Verdes. The Demos charged that Kuykendall failed to report a last minute \$125,000 contribution from tobacco giant Philip Morris in a timely fashion during the last election cycle...

WEST L.A. LINCOLN CLUB HOSTS SOS BILL JONES.

CA Sec. of State Bill Jones (R) will be the featured speaker at a reception hosted by the West L.A. Lincoln Club, 6:30 p.m., June 13, Regency Club, West L.A. For info ☎ Sarah Kane at (818)345-2310...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

● GOP fundraiser/businessman Gene Raper has closed his L.A. based business (United Packaging), has moved to Sacto, and has now become a partner with consultants Sal Russo and Tony Marsh. The firm's new name: Russo, Marsh + Raper, Inc...

● Nelson & Lucas Communications of Sacto has hired Pamela Williams as director of client support services; and Dana Fazio & Anissa Yates have been hired as associates...

● The CA Credit Union League has hired Robert Arnould as the director of legislative affairs. Prior to moving to CA, Arnould was the Speaker of the Iowa House of Representatives...

● DC-based Direct Impact Co. has formed a new division called Direct Impact Communications. The new division has named Margaret Tutwiler as president and ceo...

● S.F. Mayor Frank Jordan's reelection committee has hired the polling firm of Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin & Associates...

CALPEEK'S MARKETPLACE NETWORK

● **Manager of Political Reporting Unit** - Law firm specializing in political and election law seeks manager of its Political Reporting Unit. Manager will work closely with firm attorneys and be responsible for overseeing preparation of campaign and lobbying disclosure reports for over 150 federal, state and local ballot measure committees, major donors, lobbyist employers, candidates and nonprofit organizations. He or she will supervise staff of 3+ employees. Candidates must be detail oriented, computer literate, and have experience in management; experience working with campaign and/or lobbying reports preferred. Full time position. Salary DOE. Excellent benefits. Equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Send or fax resume to James R. Sutton, Esq., Nielsen, Merksamer, Parrinello, Mueller & Naylor, 591 Redwood Highway, #4000, Mill Valley, CA 94901. Fax (415)388-6874. No telephone calls...

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